



MAINE

Competitive ♦ Innovative ♦ Growing



*Maine Department of Economic
and Community Development*

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- ❖ Maine had dramatic growth in the clean energy economy from 1998-2007; green jobs grew by 22.7% compared to a 3.3% increase in jobs overall according to a Pew Charitable Trust report. Nationally, the green job growth rate was only 9.1%.
- ❖ Pine Tree Development Zones were expanded state-wide in 2009, attracting new business and creating new jobs in all regions of the state.
- ❖ Portland earned the fifth highest ranking in the country for best places to launch a small business according to a 2010 Portfolio.com/bizjournals study on small business vitality.
- ❖ Maine passed legislation to lower the state income tax from 8.5% to a flat tax of 6.5% in 2009. *The Wall Street Journal* cited Maine for our vision to cut taxes and promote job growth.
- ❖ *Forbes* ranks *Coffee News*, a Bangor-based franchise and restaurant publication, among the 20 best in the country. 2009.
- ❖ Portland was listed as one of the “places that business travelers look forward to visiting because of a special restaurant or hotel, nightlife, geography or the friendliness of locals,” in *USA Today*, August 12, 2009.
- ❖ Portland was named “America’s Foodiest Small Town 2009” by *Bon Appétit*.
- ❖ CNNMoney.com reported that Bangor was one of the 25 best places to retire in the U.S. citing the small-town lifestyle. 2009.